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Where Will I Live?



Synopsis

This stunning photo essay takes a look at the thousands of children around the world who have been forced to flee war, terror, hunger and natural disasters, young refugees on the move with very little left except questions. It's hard to imagine, but the images here will help unaffected children understand not only what this must feel like, but also how very lucky they are. The final message is that children, even with uncertain futures, are resilient and can face uncertainty with optimism. With images from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: 1 - 5

Customer Reviews

"A poignant photojournalistic look at the issues confronting refugee children and their families...The true power of the book lies in the ability to spark classroom conversations, highlighting the need for cultural awareness and compassion. Consider to prompt elementary school discussions on empathy for refugees." (School Library Journal 2017-03-20)

What happens when home is suddenly gone?

This is a great book to read to children who are learning about, hearing about or asking questions about the plight of refugees. I taught at a school that has over 50% of the population who had

immigrated from various nations. This would have been a great tool to use with those classes to continue the conversations and to assist with understanding about their classmates as well as the children that had been arriving as refugees in the area. The photographs in this book are mesmerizing. They show children and families in various situations, living in refugee camps, escaping on boats, wandering and dealing with having no home. The simple narrative, explains the plight of these scared weary refugees who feel lost and hopeless and just want to obtain a normal life once again. Their lives are difficult, they are constantly on the move and never know what they will face the next day. The parents are worried about the family's safety from wars, corrupt officials etc. However, through all this, the children play, make friends and have hope that they will find a home. They wonder what it will be like and what their new lives will bring. The book ends on a high note, which unfortunately is not the way all their lives and struggles will end, but it is for children so there is some sugar coating. One of the things I really like about this book is that all profits will go to refugee organizations to help those who are in this situation. This book will teach children about the plight of others, how they live and what they deal with on a day-to-day basis. It will also help to teach them how to be grateful for their own country, and most of all compassion to enable them to reach out and help those less fortunate. I highly, highly recommend this book to all schools and public libraries. It's timing with the current situations around the world is perfect. The publisher generously provided me with a copy of this book via Netgalley.

Where Will I Live? by Rosemary McCarney is a heart wrenching book that had me choking sobs back as I read it. Although there is only about a half a sentence per page, it is the dynamic and powerful images that tell the story. It simply asks the child where am I to sleep, who will be my friends, will I have a bed, where will be my home, and will I be welcome by you? But all the questions are framed differently of course, but the message is there and the images show what they have to go through to find a home. Adults will see the side of hopelessness and inability of trying to protect the young from something out of our control. Children will probably connect to the children in the book and wonder what would happen to me if this is to happen, a good empathy lesson. Compassion tenderly growing. A great book to spread the empathy for this much needed cause. The world needs more love and caring attitude. Compassion breeds action. Action breeds solutions. The money this book brings goes toward refugee children's programs around the world. Thanks NetGalley and Second Story Press for allowing me to read this book.

Just as she did in The Way to School, Rosemary McCarney captures the experiences of children

around the world in *Where Will I Live?* McCarney, Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the U.N., spotlights countries around the world where refugees have been displaced due to war and conflict. What a scary experience, especially for children. McCarney's photographs capture both the uncertainty and fear of the children, and the joy and optimism that many share. Even in the worst of circumstances, children still forge friendships with their peers and find time to play. Most kids never have to endure the kinds of experiences the kids in *Where Will I Live?* go through. For that vast majority of children (and adults) *Where Will I Live?* provides colorful examples to inspire us to be thankful for national and residential stability. More importantly, McCarney inspires us to think about how we, individually and as a nation, might be able to help refugee families. Thanks to NetGalley and the publisher for the complimentary electronic review copy!

Most children around the world take having a home for granted, however there are also many children who have had to leave their homes because their families are no longer safe. This is their story. It is a heartbreakingly told with simple words and stunning photographs. It is the photographs that draw you in. They capture children and families around the world. They capture harsh conditions and yet they also capture the universality of childhood. The need for a place to sleep. The love of parents. The joy of friendship. The wonder. All this amid the uncertainty and despair of their refugee status. It is sobering, but also hopeful. A poignant and timely book to share with children.

The photos and text are well done, evocative but not scary for young readers. I think this book would be a great conversation starter for teachers/parents and children.

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